

Abstract of the Disclosure:

A modular connecting system for connecting an external device to a fieldbus system includes a fieldbus-specific fieldbus interface circuit and a fieldbus-independent interface device  
5 connected to the interface circuit. The interface device has operating modes and is to be selectively connected to an external device including not only simple sensors or actuators with parallel signal transmission, but also complex sensors or actuators with series signal transmission. The interface  
10 device connects the external device to said interface circuit during parallel signal transmission and serial signal transmission. The interface device is programmed to autonomously check a type of the external device connected to said interface device and to select an appropriate subset of  
15 said operating modes for the type of the external device.

GLM/kc